

REMARKS

This Amendment is submitted in reply to the Office Action dated February 15, 2011. Claims 1 and 8-22 are pending in this Application, and Claims 1, 8-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102. Claims 11, 15, 16 and 20-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103. In this Response, Claims 1, 8 and 14 are amended herein. Claims 2-7 and 20-22 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. The amendment does not add new matter. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge deposit account 02-1818 for any fees which are due and owing. If such a withdrawal is made, please indicate the Attorney Docket No. 3712174-00517 on the account statement. Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections are improper or have been overcome, as set forth in detail below.

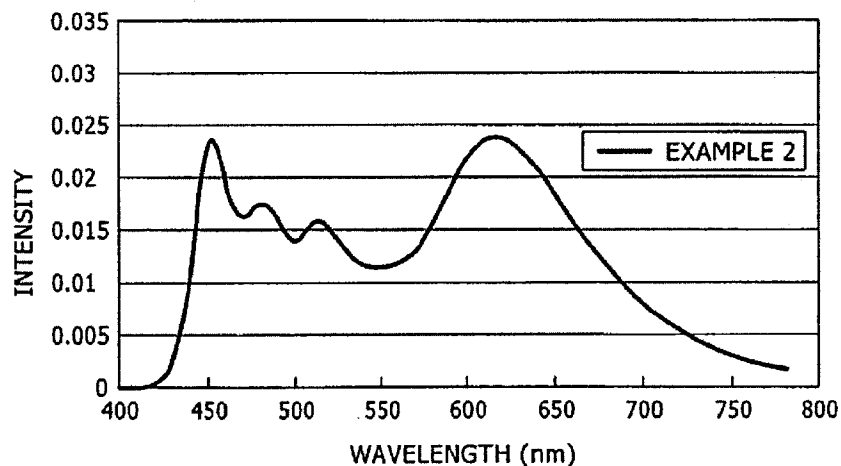
The Office Action rejected Claims 1, 8-10, 12-14 and 17-19 under 35 U.S. C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Fukuyama et al, ("Fukuyama") U.S. Patent No. 6,831,406. Also, the Office Action rejected Claim 16 and 20-22 under 35 U.S. C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,831,406 to Fukuyama in view of U.S. Publication No. 2004/0048100A1 to Ebisawa, et al. Of the rejected claims, Claims 1, 8 and 14 are the sole independent claims and have been amended to incorporate elements from cancelled Claims 20-22. In particular, Claim 1 has been amended to recite, at least in part, an organic EL device comprising an anode, a cathode, and an organic layer including a plurality of light emitting layers provided between the anode and the cathode, wherein said light emitting layers comprise a red light emitting layer provided on the anode, a green light emitting layer provided directly on the red light emitting layer, and a blue light emitting layer provided directly on the green light emitting layer, wherein said blue light emitting layer comprises a positive and negative charge transporting blue light emitting layer and an electron transmitting blue light emitting layer laminated in this order from the anode side. Independent Claims 8 and 14 have been amended in a similar manner to recite, at least in part, wherein said blue light emitting layer comprises a positive and negative charge transporting blue light emitting layer and an electron transmitting blue light emitting layer laminated in this order from the anode side. Previously presently independent Claim 16 also includes this feature.

The Office Action relies on the primary Fukuyama reference, at least in part, for disclosing an electron transmitting blue light emitting layer, and also admits that Fukuyama is "silent about the blue light emitting layer comprising [sic] a positive and negative charge

transporting blue light emitting layer.” (See, Office Action, pg. 6). Thus, the Examiner relies on Ebisawa to cure the deficiencies of Fukuyama. However, even assuming arguendo that paragraph [0075] of Ebisawa discloses “the blue light emitting layer comprises a positive and negative charge transporting blue light emitting layer,” as alleged on page 6 of the Office Action, there is no disclosure or suggestion in either of the references to have a multilayered blue light emitting structure combining both a positive and negative charge transporting blue light emitting layer and an electron transmitting blue light emitting layer laminated in this order from the anode side, as required by the presently claimed invention.

The present application also discloses unexpected results that occur from the combination of layers in particular, in Example 2, an organic EL device 1' was manufactured in the same manner as above, except that the blue light emitting layer 13 in Example 1 was replaced by a two-layer structure of a positive and negative charge transporting blue light emitting layer and an electron transporting light emitting layer. (See, Specification, paragraph [0079]). The emission spectrum of the organic EL device in Example 2 is shown in FIG. 4 below.

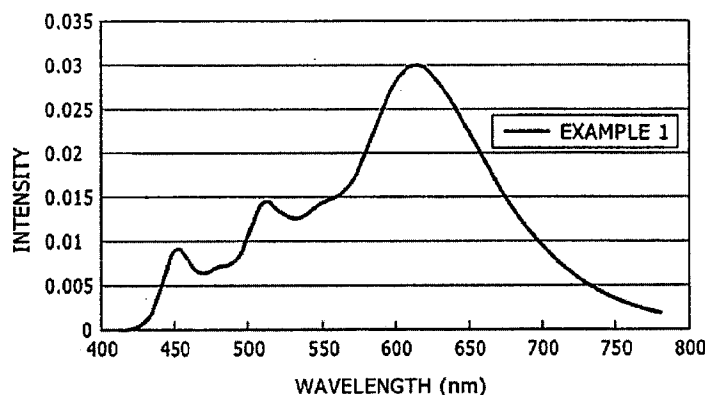
FIG. 4



As shown in Fig. 4 above, it was confirmed that blue, green and red light emission components can be obtained from the organic EL device according to Example 2. (See, Specification, paragraph [0081]). In addition, light emission with a luminance of 1126 cd/m² and CIE chromaticity (0.372, 0.334) at a current density of 25 mA/cm² was obtained evenly over the light emission surface. (See, Specification, paragraph [0081]). Moreover, from a

comparison of the emission spectrum shown in FIG. 3 below, with the emission spectrum shown in Fig. 4 above, it was confirmed that the organic EL device in Example 2 wherein the blue light emitting layer 13 has a two-layer structure showed light emission with a greater blue component and a better balance of white light emission, as compared with the organic EL device wherein the blue light emitting layer 13 has a single-layer structure.

FIG. 3



Therefore, the presently claimed invention exhibits unexpected results by combining a positive and negative charge transporting blue light emitting layer and an electron transmitting blue light emitting layer laminated in this order from the anode side. This feature is not disclosed or suggested in Fukuyama and Ebisawa, even assuming that the references are properly combinable.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the 35 U.S.C. §102(e) rejection of Claims 1, 8-10, 12-14 and 17-19, and the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejection of Claims 16 and 20-22 be withdrawn.

The Office Action rejected Claims 11 and 15 under 35 U.S. C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,831,406 to Fukuyama in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,198,217 Suzuki et al ("Suzuki"). Claims 11 and 15 depend from amended Claims 1 and 14, and are believed to be allowable for at least the reasons discussed above and for the additional elements recited therein, even assuming that the references are properly combinable.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejection of Claims 11 and 15 be withdrawn.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully submit the present application is in condition for allowance and earnestly solicit reconsideration of same.

Respectfully submitted,

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